

Washington, DC- Wednesday, Congressman Harry Teague announced that the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (New Mexico Tech) will receive \$992,460 from the Department of Justice to provide technical training to state, local and tribal law enforcement in New Mexico and Arizona. The program will target law enforcement in cities that are most vulnerable to border crime and drug trafficking, including Las Cruces, Roswell, and Silver City.

"Often times the men and women of our local police and sheriff departments are the first to respond when law enforcement is needed in border communities," said Congressman Harry Teague. "The need for New Mexico Tech's program is only increasing as violence across the border continues to escalate. This technical training will improve law enforcement preparedness and help to protect our communities in southern New Mexico. "

New Mexico Tech's goal is to increase the ability of participating agencies to control, reduce, and prevent narcotics activities along the border with Mexico. New Mexico Tech will begin by conducting a skills assessment summit, followed by tactical training focused on border and narcotics-related kidnapping negotiation and rescue tactics, high-risk drug warrant service, high-risk highway drug interdiction operations and officer drug war survival. In addition to the 1,350 personnel that will receive on-site training, New Mexico Tech estimates that over 3,000 additional law enforcement agents will receive training through an online training and CD that will be made available.